

# MUSCOGEE NATION

## NEWS

July 1, 2011  
Volume 41, Issue 10

www.themusgeecreeknation.com

PR SRT FIRST CLASS  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO 49  
STIGLER, OK 74462

## Multipurpose Dome is done

- Ellis gives final State of the Nation address



MNN/Gary Fife

Pictured above are Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, National Council Speaker Roger Barnett and Rep. Sam Alexander at the ribbon-cutting event for the new Multipurpose Building located on the Claude Cox Omnplex grounds.

### Staff Muscogee Nation News

OKMULGEE — It opened with the traditional posting of the colors and a prayer, to serve as a showplace for Muscogee tribal activities, sports and entertainment.

The Grand Opening for the New Multipurpose Building located at the Claude Cox Omnplex grounds, hosted both the Living Legends Ceremony and

State of the Nation Address by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

The program included a special tribute to the late Second Chief Shelly Crow and a video of the Ellis administration's accomplishments.

The \$4 million project is more than 20,000 square feet with 160-foot diameter. The structure was built as a Mono-

lithic Dome to used as an event center for various activities. It includes spectator seating, classrooms, concessions and several multi-use areas.

Inside the new Multi-purpose center, Principal A.D. Ellis delivered his final State of the Nation address at the 37th Annual Muscogee (Creek) festival.

**SEE STATE - A8**

## California Muscogee Creek gathering set for Aug. 6

Media Release  
California Creek Association

ANAHEIM, Calif., — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association is pleased to announce the 2011 gathering of California's Creek Indians Aug. 6, 2011 at the American Indian United Methodist Church in Anaheim, Calif., from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The church is located at 800 South Street in Anaheim.

During the meeting, there

will be a candidate forum for those running in the upcoming 2011 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Primary Election set for Sept. 17.

Informational booths detailing citizen services such as voter registration and language will also be available on-site for attendees of the gathering.

For more information, call (760) 534-1632.

## Candidate filing set for July 18-20

Lee Longhorn  
MNN Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — July is the official month to file to be a candidate for office in the upcoming Muscogee (Creek) Nation election. Candidates are unofficial until they have filed with the MCN Election Board office during the filing dates.

"People can announce that they're going to run for Chief, but it's not official until the filing dates," said Nettie Harjo, Election Board Manager.

The dates to file for the elec-

tion are July 18-20 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., each day. Candidates' photos to be featured in the upcoming election preview edition will be taken at this time.

Aside from candidate filing, the election office will continue taking absentee and precinct voter registration.

Voter registration will be open until Sep. 7, 2011 and absentee voter registration closes Aug. 25 at 5 p.m. The primary election is set for Sep. 17

**SEE ELECTION - A3**

### A2 LEGAL

Legal Notice: GD 2011-17



### A3 LEGAL

Legal Notice: CV 2011-78



### A4 CAPITOL NEWS

Veterans' Scoop



### A6 SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services  
July Field  
Schedule

Effective beginning July 2011			
Service	Location	Time	Staff
Adoption	Adoption Center	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Adoption Specialist
Child Support	Child Support Office	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Child Support Specialist
Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence Center	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Domestic Violence Specialist
Elder Abuse	Elder Abuse Center	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Elder Abuse Specialist
Financial Counseling	Financial Counseling Center	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Financial Counseling Specialist
Food Bank	Food Bank	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Food Bank Specialist
Health Insurance	Health Insurance Center	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Health Insurance Specialist
Housing	Housing Center	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Housing Specialist
Job Training	Job Training Center	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Job Training Specialist
Legal Services	Legal Services Center	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Legal Services Specialist
Substance Abuse	Substance Abuse Center	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Substance Abuse Specialist
Tax Services	Tax Services Center	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Tax Services Specialist

### A7 COMMUNITY

Sapulpa  
Elders  
Honored





## Muscogee Nation News STAFF

Manager - Gerald Wofford  
Editor - Rebecca Landsberry  
Reporter - Gary Fife  
Advertising - Ruth Bible  
Photography - Mallory Bible  
Circulation - Wilma Murphy  
Intern Reporter - Lee Longhorn

**The Muscogee Nation News** is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to **The Muscogee Nation News** unless other copyrights are shown.

Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Please contact our office for deadline of submissions to be considered for inclusion. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

**The Muscogee Nation News** is mailed from Stigler, Okla., to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

**TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, PLEASE CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.**



## 2011 MCN District Court filings

The District Court filings from April 1, 2011 through April 30, 2011 are as follows:

### Family Domestic:

OCSE, ex rel., Anne West v. Michael West	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Ada Baldridge v. Daryl Bassett	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Seana Stephens v. Jerry Stephens	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Kristen Roberts v. Jason Warrior	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Ashley Whitmore v. Nicholas Durant	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Candy Sadler v. Marcus Lawrence	Child Support
OCSE, ex rel., Kendra Rutledge v. Terry Jimboy	Child Support

### Ex-Parte:

Davana Powell v. Brandon Pigeon	Ex-Parte
---------------------------------	----------

### Criminal Misdemeanor:

MCN v. Kimberly Harjo	Ct. 1: Theft
-----------------------	--------------

### Criminal Felony:

MCN v. Jodie Fees	Ct. 1: Theft
MCN v. Lee Benton	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
MCN v. Phillip Mills	Ct. 1: Theft

### Traffic:

MCN v. Leon Hamilton	DUS
MCN v. Sheila Haywood	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Joseph Johnson	No Insurance
MCN v. Leshia Deere-Turney	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Issac Tiger	Disorderly Conduct
MCN v. Skirmante Thompson	DUS
MCN v. James Bentz	Possession of Marijuana
MCN v. Ivan McPeak	DUS
MCN v. Ashley Stutchmam	Trespass
MCN v. Christopher Logan	No Driver's License
MCN v. Delilah Leach	DUS
MCN v. Crystal Brown	No Insurance
MCN v. Crystal Brown	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jacob Amann	Expired Tag
MCN v. Jesse Kent	DUS

### Marriage Licenses:

Patricia Buckner and Glenn Cenkovich	Marriage License
Kenneth Joslin and Lisa Sanders	Marriage License
Erik Ishmael and Kara Osborne	Marriage License

The District Court filings from May 1, 2011 through May 31, 2011 are as follows:

### Civil:

Liberty Finance v. Taryn McCargo	Small Claims
Roy Harris Jr., v. Emily Rasmussen	Petition
Dixie Finance v. Taryn McCargo	Small Claims

Dixie Finance v. Steve Lowe	Small Claims
Liberty Finance v. Katherine Willie	Small Claims
Banner Finance v. Cerena Gray	Small Claims
LVNV Funding, LLC., v. Carey Colvin	Foreign Judgment
Royal Finance v. Melissa George	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Crystal Baldridge	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Cecily Dickson-Varela	Foreign Judgment
Pamela Sue Miller v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation d/b/a Creek Nation Casino	Petition
Jeffrey Williams v. Kimberly Lindsey	Petition
Progressive Car Insurance v. Stephanie Dowling	Foreign Judgment
Linda Jeffers v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation and River Spirit Casinos	Petition
Brittany McGuire v. Michael Delaney	Petition

### Divorce:

Patsy Hedge v. James McDaniel	Divorce
Jacqueline Gibbs v. Ira Gibbs	Divorce
Heidi George v. Christopher George	Divorce
Cristina Stange v. Clinton Stange	Divorce
Joshua Birdcreek v. Stephanie Birdcreek	Divorce
Robert Solomon v. Leah Solomon	Divorce
Susan Denton v. Joseph Denton	Divorce
Deanna Gutierrez v. Vincent Gutierrez	Divorce
Marcia Cozart v. Galen Cozart	Divorce

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of B. C. R. )  
Minor Child. )

Case No. **GD-2011-17**

**SERVICE OF SUMMONS  
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Andrea D. Bilby

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for Guardianship in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. GD-2011-17, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of B.C.R. born on September 3, 2000. The action alleges that the Petitioners are entitled to the guardianship over the minor child listed above.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the Petitioners or appear at the hearing on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of July 2011 at 2:00 o'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioners as prayed for in their *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, Okmulgee District

By: Debbie King  
(Deputy)

(SEAL)

## Election

Continued from A1

Only those voters who return an absentee ballot request form to the Election Board will receive a ballot for the Primary and General Elections.

"We do encourage a lot of people to go absentee because emergencies may be happening or you happen to have something else to do on that day," Harjo said.

Absentee Ballots will be mailed Oct. 17, 2011.

Precinct registration closes Oct. 26, 2011.

General Election will be held Nov. 5, 2011, followed by Election protest week Nov. 7-11, 2011.

### Candidate eligibility for Principal Chief and Second Chief:

- ¼ or more Creek blood
- 30 years old upon filing
- Legal resident within jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek)

Nation one (1) full calendar year

- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)

- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months

- Employees must take leave before filing

- Filing fees for Principal Chief are \$550 and \$425 for Second Chief - cashier's check or money order only

### Candidate eligibility for National Council Representative:

- ¼ or more Creek blood

- 18 years and older

- Must be a legal resident of his/her district one (1) full calendar year

- No felony within the last 10 years (a background check will be conducted)

- A tribal registered voter for the past six (6) months

- Employees must take leave before filing

- Article VI Section 2(b), when the

representative ceases to be an actual resident of the district, they disqualify themselves as a representative of that district.

When filing please have the following documents:

- Tribal enrollment card
- MCN voter card
- Cashier's check or money order for \$200 filing fee

Verification of residence; candidates will need two (2) of the following:

- Income tax return for the preceding year

- Homestead exemption or copy of property tax

- Copy of house deed or statement from Creek Housing Authority containing dates of residency

- If renting; a notarized statement from the landlord containing dates of residency and landlord's address and phone number

- Utility bill in candidate's name

- Driver's License (with current address)

(Address must be the same on all documents)

In order to provide citizens with an overview of each candidate's platform, the Muscogee Nation News will provide each candidate the opportunity to share their vision for the Nation's future via candidate profiles.

Profiles will be featured in the upcoming August edition of the *Muscogee Nation News* and should be 150 words or less. All candidates should include name, district, age, clan, tribal town, church, ceremonial ground, education and any relevant experience.

Submissions will be accepted via e-mail at: [glife@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:glife@muscogeenation-nsn.gov), or mail information to: MCN Communications

c/o Gary Fife

P.O. Box 580

Okmulgee, OK 74447

For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board at (918) 732-7631.



## Letter from MNN Editor:

OKMULGEE — Estonko!

Whew! Was it just me or was that the best festival to date? I was impressed with the upgrades to many of the facilities, the organization of staff members and the general flow of every event I photographed.

Although one of my main priorities was trying not to pass out from the heat, my job took me on a whirlwind tour of many of the activities that make this weekend a great time to be Mvskoke.

If you had a chance to attend any of the events or activities, I challenge you to find one where there WASN'T a presence of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthouse Police officers.

Id also like to tip my hat to MCN Tourism & Recreation. Brian On-The-Hill, as I said earlier, this event couldn't have gone more smoothly (if there were bumps in the road, I certainly didn't notice).

After the crowds dispersed from the new Multipurpose Building, there was quite a bit of trash left in the seating area. I'm sure there was someone else who could have volunteered, and whom did I see but William Lowe, Director of T&R, filling trash bags. It just goes to show some MCN staff will tackle any job that needs doing, no matter how big or small.

Myto to all the volunteers and staff for your service!

If you have news, events or story ideas, please contact the Communications Department by phone at (918) 732-7720 or e-mail me at [RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:RLandsberry@muscogeenation-nsn.gov)



IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

In the matter of the name change of: )  
MONICA MARTIN, )  
Case No. CV 2011-78 )

NOTICE OF FILING PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION: To whom it may concern

Monica Martin, born June 9, 1975 has filed a *Petition for Change of Name* in the above Court to have her name changed from Monica Martin to Monica Kay Hutton and the same will be heard in the courtroom before the Honorable Judge Patrick E. Moore in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District Courthouse, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 19th day of July, 2011 at 2 o'clock P.m, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard. Any person may file a written protest in this case prior to the date set for the hearing.

Given under my hand a seal this 3rd day of June, 2011.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk  
By: Sharon Mickelson  
Deputy Court Clerk

APPROVED FOR ISSUANCE:

Kurt K. Townsend, MCN#642  
Shannon L. Prescott, MCN#165  
Courtney L. Eagan-Smith, MCN#543  
Gregory N. Hope, MCN#641  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Services  
114 N. Grand, North Lobby  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 756-1112  
(918) 756-1113 facsimile  
Attorneys for Petitioner

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION  
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
C.D., DOB: 10-18-93 )  
Alleged Deprived Child. )  
Case No. JV-2011-01

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: Jessica Ratliff  
2974 East McKenzie  
Apt. B  
Fresno, CA 93701

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child(ren), you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the 11th day of October, 2011 at the hour of 10:00 a.m. for an Adjudication Hearing and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 27th day of June, 2011.

[Seal]

Sharon King  
Court Clerk  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

# Veterans' Scoop: Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans and Agent Orange

Staff  
Veterans Affairs Services Office

WASHINGTON, D.C., — Veterans who served on open sea ships off the shore of Vietnam during the Vietnam War. Currently, Blue Water Veterans who did not set foot in Vietnam or serve aboard ships that operated on the inland waterways of Vietnam must provide evidence that they were exposed to herbicides during military service in order to receive disability compensation for diseases associated with Agent Orange exposure. VA asked IOM to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the potential for herbicide exposure among Blue Water Vietnam Veterans to ensure they are receiving the best possible health care and services.

This study was an additional step following the Secretary's decision in 2010 to add three new presumptive conditions (Ischemic Heart disease, Parkinson's, and B-cell Leukemia) related to exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange based on a scientific review conducted by IOM in accordance with the Agent Orange Act of 1991. VA expanded the list of health problems the agency presumed to be related to exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange to fourteen conditions. These presumptions were extended to thousands of Servicemembers who may have been exposed to Agent Orange on land or inland waterways, also known as Brown Water.

Blue Water Veterans are



*The Veterans' Scoop features articles and updates from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other credible sources.*



**Department of  
Veterans Affairs**

# Bristow Indian Community to elect officers July 9

Media Release  
MCN CR&D

BRISTOW — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has satisfied the Bristow Indian Community's debt and penalty fees with the Internal Revenue Service. With the IRS audit being settled, Chief Ellis has directed the appropriate MCN Departments and Agencies to implement a plan of action to release the Bristow Indian Community from Proclamation.

The first step in this plan is to conduct Election for Community Officers. The Community was unable to elect a full board in October 2010. Recently two dates were set for filing for the Board positions. The first was May 27th and June 24th, unfortunately both dates passed without a filing for the Vice-Chairman position. Therefore, the filing period will continue to be open until candidates have filing for all three offices. An election will be scheduled and held after all positions have candidates.

At this time filing for Chairman is; Charlie Simmers and filing for Secretary/Treasurer is Rachel Little.

After the election is held the new Community Board Officers will receive training from the Community Research & Development Staff, Internal Auditor, and Community Finance Officer and other appropriate Departments/Offices of the Nation. We will work directly with the Board to ensure that they have a full understanding and accountability in accordance with the requirements of Title 11.

The Proclamation will be lifted, only after the Board has demonstrated their understanding of Title 11, and of all required Policies and Procedures.

In order to be eligible to vote, you must be a member of the Bristow Indian Community, be 18 years of age and reside within the Community boundaries. Please bring photo identification so that you can be properly identified i.e. driver's license or Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card. Failure to provide identification will prevent you from casting a vote.

To be eligible to file for office you must be a member of the Bristow Indian Community, be 18 years of age and reside within the Community boundaries, and be a full citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. A full citizen is one quarter (1/4) or more blood quantum.

Any individual that intends to have their name on the ballot must submit a letter of intent and a background check form. Background check forms may be picked up at the Bristow Smoke Shop or the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Elderly Nutrition Center.

Letters of intent should state the position the individual is seeking and contact information. Letters of intent and background forms shall be mailed or hand-delivered to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Community Research and Development.

The mailing address is as follows:  
MCN Community Research and Development

Att: Anita Freeman  
P.O. Box 580  
Okmulgee, Ok 74447

Candidates should be aware that the term of office will begin immediately upon the final announcement of the winners and continue until the regular election that will be held in October 2012, in accordance with the Community's current policies and procedures.

This election will constitute the beginning of the transfer of the community back to the hands of its members. The elected officers must be prepared for an intense amount of work and dedication. The officers will be working closely with many departments of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation during this transition period.

Title 11 §6-204A states that an elected official of the community may not be employed by any of the community enterprises. Individuals who are currently employed at the Bristow Smoke Shop may be placed on the ballot with the understanding that they must resign their employment if elected.

In order to provide for fair representation, individuals who are related in the following manner may not hold office during the same term.

This restriction shall apply to: spouse, father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, grandfather, grandmother, grandson, granddaughter, niece, nephew, uncle, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, stepsister, stepdaughter or stepson.

Multiple family members may be placed on the ballot with the understanding that only one may serve as an officer. The family will have to decide amongst itself who will serve as an officer; the other elected family members must resign. If this creates open positions, the candidate with the next highest votes shall be determined the winner.

Keepseagle settle-  
ment information

OKMULGEE — A \$760 million settlement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has been reached in the *Keepseagle v. Vilsack* class action lawsuit.

The lawsuit claimed the USDA discriminated against Native Americans by denying them equal access to credit in the USDA Farm Loan Program.

The lawsuit claims that the USDA denied thousands of Native American farmers and ranchers the same opportuni- ties to get farm loans or loan servicing that were given to white farmers and ranchers.

You may be eligible for a payment of up to \$50,000 or more and forgiveness of some or all outstanding USDA loans if you qualify as a class member.

The Class includes all Na- tive American farmers and ranchers who:

- Farmed or ranched or attempted to farm or ranch be- tween Jan. 1, 1981 and Nov. 24, 1999; and
- Sought, or attempted to seek, a farm loan from the USDA during that period; and
- Complained about dis- crimination to the USDA orally or in writing on their own or through a representative, such as a tribal government, during that same time period.

A schedule of meetings for the month of July that will be held to assist class members with submitting Track A claims is located on this page as re- quested by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Realty Trust Services

For more information check out the Keepseagle v. Vilsack settlement Web site at indianfarmersclass.com

Date	Time	Location
7/6/2011	9:00AM	Fort Peck Community College; 301 Benton Street, Wolf Point, MT
7/6/2011	9:00AM	Cankdeska Cikana (Little Hoop) Comm College; 214 1st Ave., Fort Totten, ND
7/6/2011	9:00AM	Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Inst; 9169 Coors Blvd. Albuquerque, NM
7/6/2011	9:00AM	Caddo Cultural Center (Tribal Bldg); U.S. 281, Binger, OK (Intersection of Highways 281 and 152)
7/7/2011	9:00AM	Fort Peck Community College; 301 Benton Street, Wolf Point, MT
7/7/2011	9:00AM	Cankdeska Cikana (Little Hoop) Comm College; 214 1st Ave., Fort Totten, ND
7/7/2011	9:00AM	Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Inst; 9169 Coors Blvd. NW, Albuquerque, NM
7/7/2011	9:00AM	Caddo Cultural Center (Tribal Bldg); U.S. 281, Binger, OK
7/12/2011	9:00AM	Navajo Nation Museum; Hwy 264, and Loop Road, Window Rock, AZ
7/12/2011	9:00AM	Little Big Horn College; 1 Forestry Lane, Crow Agency, MT
7/12/2011	9:00AM	Lowrys Farm, 8879 US Hwy 74W., Pembroke, NC
7/12/2011	9:00AM	TBA New Town ND
7/12/2011	9:00AM	Comanche Nation College; 1608 Southwest 9th Street Lawton, OK
7/13/2011	9:00AM	Navajo Nation Museum; Hwy 264, and Loop Road, Window Rock, AZ
7/13/2011	9:00AM	Little Big Horn College; 1 Forestry Lane, Crow Agency, MT
7/13/2011	9:00AM	Lowrys Farm, 8879 US Hwy 74W., Pembroke, NC
7/13/2011	9:00AM	TBA New Town ND
7/13/2011	9:00AM	Comanche Nation College; 1608 Southwest 9th Street Lawton, OK
7/14/2011	9:00AM	Navajo Nation Museum; Hwy 264, and Loop Road, Window Rock, AZ
7/14/2011	9:00AM	Little Big Horn College; 1 Forestry Lane, Crow Agency, MT
7/14/2011	9:00AM	Lowrys Farm, 8879 US Hwy 74W., Pembroke, NC
7/14/2011	9:00AM	Ft Berthold Community College; 220 8th Ave. N. / PO. Box 490 New Town, ND
7/14/2011	9:00AM	Comanche Nation College; 1608 Southwest 9th Street Lawton, OK
7/19/2011	9:00AM	San Juan College; 4601 College Blvd, Farmington, NM
7/19/2011	9:00AM	TBA Newman GA
7/19/2011	9:00AM	Sitting Bull College Science & Technology; Fort Yates Campus; 9299 Hwy 24; Fort Yates, ND
7/19/2011	9:00AM	Choctaw Nation -TBA; 529 North 16th Avenue Durant, OK
7/20/2011	9:00AM	San Juan College; 4601 College Blvd, Farmington, NM
7/20/2011	9:00AM	TBA Newman GA
7/20/2011	9:00AM	Sitting Bull College Science & Technology; Fort Yates Campus; 9299 Hwy 24; Fort Yates, ND
7/20/2011	9:00AM	Choctaw Nation -TBA; 529 North 16th Avenue Durant, OK
7/21/2011	9:00AM	San Juan College; 4601 College Blvd, Farmington, NM
7/21/2011	9:00AM	TBA Newman GA

7/19/2011	9:00AM	Sitting Bull College Science & Technology; Fort Yates Campus; 9299 Hwy 24; Fort Yates, ND
7/19/2011	9:00AM	Choctaw Nation -TBA; 529 North 16th Avenue Durant, OK
7/20/2011	9:00AM	San Juan College; 4601 College Blvd, Farmington, NM
7/20/2011	9:00AM	TBA Newman GA
7/20/2011	9:00AM	Sitting Bull College Science & Technology; Fort Yates Campus; 9299 Hwy 24; Fort Yates, ND
7/20/2011	9:00AM	Choctaw Nation -TBA; 529 North 16th Avenue Durant, OK
7/21/2011	9:00AM	San Juan College; 4601 College Blvd, Farmington, NM
7/21/2011	9:00AM	TBA Newman GA
7/21/2011	9:00AM	Sitting Bull College Science & Technology; Fort Yates Campus; 9299 Hwy 24; Fort Yates, ND
7/21/2011	9:00AM	Choctaw Nation -TBA; 529 North 16th Avenue Durant, OK
7/26/2011	9:00AM	Calhoun Community College; 6250 US Highway 31, Tanner, AL
7/26/2011	9:00AM	Dine' College-Tuba City; Hwy. 160 Edgewater Dr. Tuba City, AZ
7/26/2011	9:00AM	Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes; 200 E White Rabbit Rd El Reno, OK
7/26/2011	9:00AM	HVJ Lakota Cultural Center; Hwy 212 East Eagle Butte, SD
7/27/2011	9:00AM	Calhoun Community College; 6250 US Highway 31, Tanner, AL
7/27/2011	9:00AM	Dine' College-Tuba City; Hwy. 160 Edgewater Dr. Tuba City, AZ
7/27/2011	9:00AM	Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes; 200 E White Rabbit Rd El Reno, OK
7/27/2011	9:00AM	HVJ Lakota Cultural Center; Hwy 212 East Eagle Butte, SD

If you are a Native American Farmer

or the heir of one who was denied a

USDA farm loan or loan servicing

between 1981 and late 1999,

You can get up to \$50,000 or more from a \$760 million class action settlement.

To receive a payment you must file a claim by December 27, 2011.

For more information about the Keepseagle Settlement and how to file a claim:

call 1-888-233-5506 or visit www.IndianFarmClass.com.

# Social Services aids elder citizens in 'beating the heat'



MNN/Gary Fife

Pictured above are the few air conditioners remaining in the Social Services storage shed.

**Gary Fife**  
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — It's only the beginning of the hot Oklahoma summer and already the temperatures have been pushing the three-digit mark in some places. 100 plus degree weather is nothing new to Oklahomans, but there is some relief for eligible Muscogee (Creek) citizens.

The Social Services Department has been giving single room window unit air conditioners to Muscogee members who are enrolled, 60 years of age or medically needy. They will provide a unit to eligible Creeks haven't any or have inadequate air conditioning in their homes. Julie Langston, Social Services Manager, describes how they can help, "It's intended to give them some type of relief from the heat. The program runs from May to September, but the busiest time are June, July and August. Langston says the program applicants tend to be the older people, " We get all age ranges. Typically,

it's designed for elders, 60 and older because they're a vulnerable population. But, another vulnerable population are small children or people with respiratory illnesses. So, we serve a lot of that population, as well."

The air conditioners are not designed to cool an entire house, she says. 8,000 BTUs and 10,000 BTUs size units are available, "Depending on the need in the home, where they need the most relief. It's supposed to be for those without any at all, so we'll try to do a 10,000 unit in a living room area in a large area. But, sometimes they'll have one in a living but they don't have one the bedroom. It can be very difficult to sleep at night when it's so hot, so maybe we'll try to put in a smaller one like a 5,000 or 8,000 unit. Sometimes, we have the 5,000 BTU unit."

The need for this service has been growing for the past several years. Langston thinks an aging pop-

ulation is responsible for that growth, "It seems like each year it grows a little bit. I think we get the word out and maybe more people find out about it. Since it is a program for elders, I think that's a growing population. More Creeks are turning 60 and older, so there's just more people to serve in that age range." This year, the storage unit for the air conditioners has a lot of empty space because of demand.

The air conditioner distribution program is fully funded by the Creek tribal government. This year, they receive \$36,000 to help citizens deal with the heat. Enough, Langston says, to get them through the hot season.

Information regarding the air conditioner program and applications is available on the tribal website or by calling Social Services at: 918-549-2445 or Toll Free 1-800-482-1979.

## MCN School Clothing Program applications now available

**Media Release**  
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2011, will be accepting applications for school clothing beginning Monday, May 2, 2011. Applications will only be accepted until the deadline of October 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. This program is open to all Muscogee Creek Citizen students no matter where you live in the United States. The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program consist of:

- Child must have been previously enrolled as a Creek Citizen before making application. You must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card, or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.

- The student must be at least 3 years old and enrolled in a certified Head Start (not a daycare) or be 4 years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, Pre-K through the 12th grade. All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application. Home schooled children ages 5 to 18 are also eligible, and must provide accredited curriculum OR original receipts of textbooks purchased and the signing of the Affidavit by the individual providing the education. The Affidavit will be provided with the application.

- The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.

- Some guidelines have changed! Now assistance is on a per child basis, not per house-

hold. If you turned in receipts for 10-11 that were less than the amount you received, you may still be eligible to receive some assistance in increments of \$200.00. (Example: If you received \$400.00 and turned in receipts that only totaled \$350.00, you will be eligible to receive \$200.00.) Also, if you have another child just starting school, that child will not be affected by the reduced amount. The new child will be eligible for \$200.00.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

- The School Clothing Program office, located behind the Social

Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

- Any Creek Nation Child Development Center.

- Any Creek Nation Indian Community Center.

- You may download the application at [www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov](http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov)

- Or call (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed to you.

All applications must be returned or mailed to: School Clothing Program, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447. Please do not fax or e-mail the application to us. We must have original documentation submitted to process your application.

For more information you may contact the School Clothing Program at (918) 549-2473 or toll free at 1 (800) 482-1979, ext 2473.

# Elders honored by Sapulpa Community

• Holder and Coon recognized during Older Americans Month



MNN/Gary Fife

Pictured above are Ann Holder and Phillip W. Coon, honorees of the Sapulpa Indian Community during Older Americans Month.

**Gary Fife**  
MNN Reporter

SAPULPA — Wednesday, May 18, the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community (SCIC) celebrated Older Native Americans Month by honoring the oldest Sapulpa Creek Man and Woman, SCIC members who are at least 75 years of age and the volunteers who keep the center operating.

According to Jo Anna Fixico, SCIC Chair, “We are pleased to that the Sapulpa Indian Community honors Ann Holder and Phillip W. Coon. Holder is of Euchee descent, and Coon is full-blood Creek. Both are Creek citizens who were born on the same day – March 28, 1919.”

In recognition of all the honorees, Fixico said, “It is sometimes the last opportunity for us to validate our elders, to recognize their words of wisdom and encouragement. It gives a chance for them to pass on tradition and values, and for us to acknowledge them to the outside world. Elders are often overlooked by that world. It’s our chance to honor them with tribal tradition.”

In 2006, the celebration of Older Native Americans Month began with

the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Elderly Nutrition Program. The month-long celebration honors the elders who have a positive influence and who have made contributions that enrich the lives of the Sapulpa Indian Community. The celebration coincides with May’s national observance of Older Americans Month.

Over the years, Holder has done much civic work which includes a six-year stint during the 1980s as the Secretary for the Native American Church (NAC), established in 1918. She has been a member of the NAC since 1960. During the 1980s, she also served on the Board of Directors of the Sapulpa Indian Community as Secretary, and a term as its Chairman.

Holder is a lifelong member of the Polecat Ceremonial Ground (Kellyville, Okla.) which is regarded as the mother ground for the Euchee/Yuchi. She is also a charter member of Pickett Chapel, an Indian Methodist church.

Phillip W. Coon, a full-blood Creek born into the Alligator Clan is of the Nuyaka Tribal Town, and a gradu-

ate of Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kan. (1941). On Sept. 19, 1941, Coon volunteered for overseas duty with the U.S. Army. He was assigned to the 4th Squad, H Company, 31st Infantry Regiment as a 30-caliber machine gunner. On April 11, 1942, he was captured in the Philippines by the Japanese Army. He survived not only transport on a “Hell Ship,” but the infamous 61-mile Bataan Death March.

The SCIC luncheon also honored volunteers with certificates of appreciation and named Angela Krause as 2011 Volunteer Of The Year. SCIC members Richard Hicks and Tom Tiger had trees planted on the Center’s grounds in their honor.

Fixico noted that, “We are honoring not only our elders, but our volunteers who donate their time and efforts to support and improve the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Elderly Nutrition Program and the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community. Their efforts help maintain the ENP program and allow others to enjoy activities and events throughout the year.”

## MNBE honored for global impact



NABEC/Courtesy

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise was honored as “Minority Global Technology Firm of the Year.” Pictured from left to right are Tom Seth Smith, REI President & CEO; Woody Anderson, MNBE Director/CEO; John Iglehart, Regional Director, National Enterprise Center, Dallas and James Ray, NABEC coordinator.

**Media Release**  
*Native American Business Enterprise Center*

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise, Okmulgee, was among recipients of awards during Oklahoma Minority Enterprise Development Week and named “Minority Global Technology Firm of the Year.” The celebration of success was coordinated by the Native American Business Enterprise Center (NABEC) of Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc. (REI).

A tribally-owned SBA 8(a) certified company owned by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise has two divisions: Professional Services and Life Safety & Security.

The Professional Services Division provides information technology services, program management, logistics, facility support, scientific and research support for state-side and international customers.

The Life Safety & Security Division specializes in CCTV, access control, mass notification, data and voice cable management systems and fire detection systems to universities, public schools, law enforcement, tribal governments, casinos and others. Muscogee Na-

tion Business Enterprise has grown from one employee in 2003 to as many as 95 and it continues to secure contracts in foreign countries.

“We are pleased to recognize Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise for its global impact but equally proud of its contribution to society,” said James Ray, NABEC coordinator. “This company believes in giving back to the community through sponsorships of youth athletic teams, American Cancer Society and other worthy causes. Distributions from Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation have helped fund playground equipment for a public school, Christmas for Chartered Communities, Churches and Ceremonial Grounds and special appropriations to assist tribal members.”

Through strategic partnerships with leading Oklahoma organizations, NABEC strives to assist minority business owners in reaching the next stage of growth for their companies with a special focus on procurement of government contracts.

For more information, visit [www.oknabec.com](http://www.oknabec.com).

# Neighborhood Watch comes to Muscogee (Creek) Nation

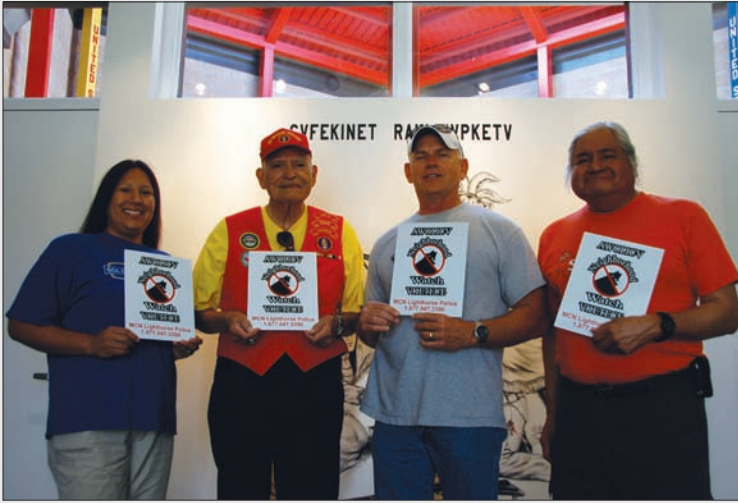
**Gary Fife**  
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — The Mvkoske words on the sign are “AWOLICV VKETECE.” Translated into English, that’s “Neighborhood Watch.” Those words can be found on signs in neighborhoods and streets in the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The Muscogee Lighthorse Police are working with citizens to bring the crime watch effort to help protect Creek residents.

The Neighborhood Watch program is a community policing effort that aims to get residents involved in keeping an eye on their own neighborhoods to keep crime and criminals out of those areas. It works by having neighbors watch their streets and homes for persons and activity that could be criminal or destructive. The phone number of the Lighthorse police is posted on these signs and residents are urged to report to law enforcement.

The signs serve as a warning to criminals and troublemakers, that the residents of this area are paying attention to unusual behavior or strange vehicles on their local streets.

Lighthorse Police Chief Jack Shackelford wants citizens to keep an eye out, “Its just watch and report. If you see suspicious activity, you’re just watching your neighbor’s home. It’s just being a good neighbor basically. If you see something that’s going on and you see somebody moving furniture out of a neighbor’s home and it doesn’t look right, call us, we’ll come out and check. It doesn’t hurt to check.”



MNN/Gary Fife

Neighborhood Watch signs were delivered to Creek veterans and West Okmulgee residents the posted Neighborhood Watch signs in their neighborhood.

The new signs will be in Creek housing complexes and Okmulgee neighborhoods at first. The signs are in both languages in order to make sure all citizens, including those who primarily speak Mvskoke, have the information. They will be placed in low income and elderly housing in Okmulgee, Okemah, Checotah and around the Eufaula area.

Shackelford is hoping to partner the Lighthorse with local law enforcement agencies to police housing areas that lie outside Muscogee tribal jurisdiction.

Wes Baker, a Muscogee senior citizen and a veteran, received one of the first bi-lingual signs. He welcomes the use of the Mvskoke language.

“I go for it. There’s a lot of Creeks that know how to read it. There’s a lot of old citizens who understand this plainer than they would ‘neighborhood’, so I think it’s a good deal.”

Tim and Evelyn Pridgen live in a west Okmulgee neighborhood and have placed a new Muscogee Neighborhood Watch sign in their front yard. She’s hoping the Neighborhood Watch program can help protect the people living there, “We believe that if we stand up for justice, then we can fight the crime together — crime doesn’t have to enter our area.” Tim says his neighbors are glad to have the new program on their streets and expects other nearby streets to join in the Watch.

Evelyn Pridgen added she believes the sign is a good warning to would-be criminals to stay away, “I think that it’s going to make them aware that, yes, we are conscious of activity going on within our neighborhood and we are going to report any activity that we are not accustomed to in our own residential area, so yes, I do think it’s going to make an impact.”

For more information call the Muscogee (Creek) Lighthorse at 1-877-547-3390.



## State

Continued from A1

Ellis listed the progress and achievements of the tribe that his administration and the National Council were able to accomplish over the past eight years.

He called for use of tribal resources to focus on job creation.

Among his many topics included the tribe’s health, housing, social services, and various other programs. Throughout his speech, he quoted fiscal numbers on how the tribe is doing.

“If you go by these figures, you know that this Nation is doing well,” Ellis said in front of a large crowd.

Ellis, elected in 2003, has served two terms as Principal Chief. The constitution of the MCN only allows the Principal Chief and Second Chief these limited terms. During his eight years in office, the tribe’s fiscal budget has expanded.

“In 2004, in our permanent fund we had \$58 million. Today, we have over \$202 million.”

There has been an increase in the social services the tribe can offer to its citizens.

Ellis reported that the Social Services Department assisted over 12,000 households. With the number of assistance given out has risen, Ellis wants something more for the citizens.

“We have created a lot of things, but we haven’t created a lot of jobs,” Ellis said. “The best thing you can give them is a job.”

According to Ellis, in its first three years when the Housing Department was placed under the tribe, there were 462 homes built for Creek families.

A highlight of his speech was the reintegration program that assists tribal members after being released from prison.

“We got about a 95 percent success rate; the state of Oklahoma has a 35 percent success rate.”

Other programs and highlights were included throughout the speech. The main focus was on the statistics on how the tribe was doing and in its present state.

The last casino built in the MCN boundaries was the Tulsa River Spirit Casino that opened in 2009 and reports over \$7 million a month in revenue. The casino was built on a \$195 million loan. The tribe now only owes just over \$105 million.

“We can pay it off if we wanted to,” Ellis said.

Ellis’ term of office concludes at the end of this year. Although he leaves office, Ellis is optimistic about the current financial situation the Nation is in.

“We’re in great shape,” Ellis concluded.

## Social Services July Field Schedule

Field Site	Location	Date
Bristow	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of month
Checotah	Community Center 9:00 am – 10:30 am	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month
Eufaula	Skating Rink 9:00 am – 11:00 am	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month
Holdenville	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of month
Koweta	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month
Okemah	Nutrition Center 9:00 am – 10:00 am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month
Sapulpa	Community Center 9:00 am – 11:00 pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month
Weleetka	Community Center 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month
Wetumka	Food Distribution 9:00 am – 11:00 am	1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of month

# FEATURES

SECTION B

July 1, 2011 edition

## Dornan sworn in as Eufaula mayor

• National Council Rep. to serve as city's first female mayor



Eufaula Indian Journal/Donna Pearce

Eufaula City Judge Kay Wall (left) swears in Selina Jayne-Dornan (right) as Eufaula's mayor Monday, June 20, at the Eufaula City Hall Council Chambers.

**Gerald Wofford**  
MCN Communications Manager

EUFULA — The city of Eufaula marked a milestone in the city's history with the election of its first female mayor. Selina Jayne-Dornan was sworn in as the mayor June 20, 2011 at the city hall conference room in downtown Eufaula.

"I think it's a highlight to be honored as the first female mayor," Dornan said.

Dornan defeated opponent Nancy Mouser in the run-off election with 342 votes to Mouser's 338.

"We want to move the city in a positive way and in my background, I have a lot to offer," Dornan said.

Dornan is currently a representative of the legislative branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a National Council member for McIntosh District. She sits on the Business and Governmental Committee and owns and operates four businesses.

With her victory, Dornan hopes her election is an inspiration for the youth. "I want to show our young

people not to give up," Dornan remarked. "I just rolled up my sleeves and went to work."

Dornan is certain that her new position will not create a conflict of interest for the tribe and city, as she seeks re-election to the National Council later this year.

"There is no conflict of interest and I know I can devote time to this because I want to contribute; I want to give back to the tribe."

## TCIC Business Board elections set for Sept. 2011

**Media Release**  
Tulsa Creek Indian Community

TULSA — An election for the TCIC Business Board is scheduled for Sept. 2011.

The TCIC Business Board is responsible for the management and supervision of all business enterprises of the community and shall report directly to TCIC including oversight of the financial operations of the community. The board consists of five (5) officers elected in accordance with Art. VII, TCIC Constitution.

Chairperson shall preside over all meetings; present all communications to the Board of Directors; delegate duties to each Officer as necessary; Vice-Chairperson shall act in absence of Chairperson provided a

quorum is met; Secretary shall maintain a full report of all proceedings; Treasurer shall oversee books of accounts, receipts and other financial responsibilities; Sergeant-of-Arms shall maintain order during meetings.

Interested candidates are required to file a Letter of Intent with the TCIC Election Committee at 8611 S. Union, in Tulsa between July 1-15, 2011. Letters of Intent shall include the candidates' election position.

After submission of the Letter of Intent, candidates may pick up a more detailed information packet on the board positions from TCIC

For more information, please contact TCIC at (918) 298-2464.

## OCMA to host MCN Candidate Forum Aug. 13

**Media Release**  
OCMCA

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association (OCMA) will host a moderated Muscogee (Creek) Nation Candidate Forum Saturday, Aug. 13, 2011, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Glorieta Baptist Church Gymnasium located at 7308 S. Western, in Oklahoma City, Okla.

All Muscogee (Creek) Nation candidates running for office are invited to participate in the forum.

The purpose of the forum is

to give candidates an opportunity to address issues vital to the Muscogee (Creek) citizens who reside in Oklahoma City or outside the boundaries of Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

There will be opportunities for the audience to ask questions during the forum. The goal is to offer voting citizens the opportunity to make an informed election decision.

For more information, please contact Ruby Harjo at (405) 808 - 6387.

### B2 CULTURAL

Mvskoke Country:  
Cokv-Walv Mvskoke  
Redux



### B3 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Grocery Bingo and Food Sale on  
July 9, 2011

### B4 HISTORY

And Still the Waters  
Run: *The Battle of  
Horseshoe Bend*



### B6 PEOPLE

Thank You: Shaunday  
Little Family



### B7 PEOPLE

Birthday: Dayne Allen  
Billie



# Mvskoke Country: Cokv-Walv Mvskoke Redux

by James Treat

The reliable return of summer solstice means the end of one year and the beginning of another in Mvskoke country.

Like other indigenous Americans, Mvskoke people “survived by knowing their natural environment well and making direct use of its surpluses. It was a land of abundance, but that abundance was only available to those who had the necessary skills,” writes J. Donald Hughes in North American Indian Ecology. “They kept track of annual cycles, naming the months after the natural changes they observed. Their lives were closely involved in nature’s rhythms, and they were conscious of this.”

Cokv-walv Mvskoke, the Mvskoke calendar, is one way our Mvskoke ancestors preserved their understanding of natural rhythms and resources. “The Indian names for the ‘moons,’ or months, show at least a part of their detailed knowledge of the seasonal cycles and rhythms of nature: when flowers or fruits would appear, when the young of animals would be born, when the lakes would freeze, when the birds would return. . . . The Indians’ science was a blend of observation, reason, insight and nature mysticism,” which is also a good description of modern technoscience if you replace nature mysticism with the profit motive.

And humanity’s great transformation from grounded spirituality to transcendent greed has laid the foundation for our current environmental crisis.

I began writing “Mvskoke Country” a couple of years ago in response to this crisis. In the first installment, titled “Return to Your Roots,” I commented on the landmark symposium organized by the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative

and supported by all three branches of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation government, which is now an annual event. I also mentioned the National Congress of American Indians’ 2006 resolution “Supporting a National Mandatory Program to Reduce Climate Change Pollution and Promote Renewable Energy,” which remains one of the organization’s current initiatives.

After a year covering various environmental topics with a Mvskoke angle, especially in the context of anthropogenic (human-caused) climate change, I decided last summer to focus on the traditional Mvskoke calendar.

At first glance, this might not seem like fertile ground for cultivating ecological knowledge, since the Gregorian calendar used by the dominant culture bears little connection to nature. The English names for the months, for example, are based on a jumble of Latin numbers, Roman deities, and other useless anachronisms. And you may recall that the English word calendar comes from the Latin *kalendarium*, “moneylender’s account book,” an etymology that speaks volumes about the prevailing attitude toward natural rhythms: “time is money,” so they say.

Not so for cokv-walv Mvskoke.

The annual round begins with posketv, called “Green Corn” in English, along with little and big months named for the harvest, Hvyuce and Hyvo-Rakko; it is a time for reaping corn and other produce that will sustain the community through the year to come. This season of meskē, “summer,” continues with a couple of months announcing another kind of ingathering, Otvwoskuce and Otvwoskv-Rakko, when ripe chestnuts were thrashed down from the branches of a majestic tree now decimated by immigrant blight.

The next season—rvfo, “winter”—opens and closes with single

months marking the arrival of falling temperatures and of rising winds: Eholē and Hotvlē-Hvse. In between these transitional periods are sibling months named for the season itself, Rvfo-Rakko and Rvfo ‘Cuse, when the natural world lies dormant and rests.

The third and final season is tasahcē, “spring”; it begins with paired months named for the season, Tasahcuce and Tasahce-Rakko, as the land awakens and invites the sowing of seeds. These are followed by two months honoring plants that provide edible fruit, Kē-Hvse and Kvco-Hvse, at a time when winter stores are running low and the new crops are not yet ready for harvest. The Mvskoke year then winds down with summer solstice and posketv as the annual cycle begins again.

No money changes hands under this calendar; the only transactions specified herein are ecological, not financial. Mvskoke citizens owe no allegiance to Roman imperialists—Julius Caesar (July), Augustus (August)—or to any culture that would conquer nature.

Instead, cokv-walv Mvskoke does exactly what a calendar ought to do: it reminds us where we are in time, just as a map helps us understand where we are in space. Both schemas work best when they situate a people in a place, orienting us to the means of survival through our natural environment.

It is good to have a Mvskoke calendar for Mvskoke country.

*You can find more information about Mvskoke country, including an archive of previous columns, at <http://mvskokecountry.wordpress.com/>*



# Emvponayv

Gary Fife  
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — We’ve seen a disturbing movement in some parts of the country to change the way U.S. history is taught. Some folks seem to feel our children don’t need to know about things like the Trail of Tears, slavery, racism, the women’s suffrage struggle and other historic facts that could cast a bad light on American’s early leadership.

The Tea Party of Tenn. argues, “no portrayal of minority experience in the history which actually occurred shall obscure the experience or contributions of the Founding Fathers, or the majority of citizens, including those who reached positions of leadership. The thing we need to focus on about the Founders is that, given the social structure of their time, they were revolutionaries who brought liberty into a world where it hadn’t existed, to everybody — not all equally instantly — and it was their progress that we need to look at.” In March of last year, the Texas Board of Education favored a proposal eliminating many parts of American history, including Thomas Jefferson, Indians, Hispanics and a few other things. Seems like we can’t be ignoring the true history of this country, in order to understand how it came about and what makes it up today. Like it or not, history is history. Our children deserve the truth as it “actually occurred”, especially the “not all equally instantly” language.

Closer to home, the proposal to fund the Oklahoma American Indian Museum has been voted down. The project has been around for years but had no guarantees of funding from the state. That leaves the museum with a visitors center and a skeleton of a roof. Even with tight budgets, that doesn’t make sense. Seems like some solution could be found with or without

tribal support and consultation. On a related note, a bill to eliminate the Indian Affairs Commission in favor of a single Indian Affairs Liaison position passed the Legislature. That would be one heck of a job for one person. Remember there are 39 tribes with different cultures and agendas living here. One example of the difference: two tribes are on opposite sides in regards to using alternative energy schemes. The Osages are opposing the construction of a wind farm electrical generation project near the Tall Grass Prairie park. They’re saying it would impact their oil business, the environment and cost them jobs. Meanwhile, the Delawares are welcoming a solar electric power project they say will supply power and lead to new jobs. How would tribal input on an issue like alternative energy be considered? With tribal consultation reduced to a single person instead of the Indian Affairs Commission, no one can benefit.

This is a state that puts “Native America” on its license plates. With all these cuts coming from state government on Indian issues, perhaps Oklahoma (Choctaw for “Home of the Red Man”) should change the tags to read “Used to be Native America.”

But, on the positive side, the state Superintendent of Education DOES want to add more Native American history and culture to school curricula. There’s a fine idea. I always wondered why we were taught about the 1889 Land Rush, but nothing about us folks whose land the Boomers and Sooners were rushing over. We’ll see what kind of reception that idea gets.

Will Rogers said, “Never miss a good chance to shut up”, so I guess I will for a while.

# CREEK NATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## MCN Head Start now accepting applications

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee Creek Nation Head Start in Checotah is currently accepting applications for enrollment.

Applicants will need the following items accompanying all applications: certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card.

Children will also need a dental exam and current physical. Dental and physical forms will be provided with the application. All races and ethnicities may apply.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program offers full day services for children ages 3-5 years. Children must be age three by Sept. 1, 2011. Applications are available at 302 B. Street in Checotah.

For more information, call (918) 473-0605.

## CMHI hosting Youth Field Day in July

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health Children's Mental Health Initiative will host Youth Field Days in July.

Youth boys and girls ages 6-13, will have the opportunity to enjoy healthy and safe activities such as relay races, a water toss, hula hooping and egg spoon races. Free food, drinks and a drawing for an ipod shuffle will also be available.

Wednesday July 6, 2011, events will be held at the Muskogee Indian Community Center from 5-7 p.m.

For more information, please contact MCN CMHI at (918) 224-9307.

## MCN Blood Drive

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Blood Drive

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be having a blood drive on Friday, July 8. It will be held at the Mus-

cogee Housing Authority Building Conference Room on the first floor. Please sign up with Denise Jacobs at (918) 732-7632 or email at denisej@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

## Grocery Bingo & Food Sale

HOLDENVILLE — A benefit grocery and food sale will be held at the Holdenville Creek Indian Community Center on Saturday, July 9 from 10a.m.-3p.m. The grocery bingo will begin at 1p.m. There will be a cakewalk, door prizes, and two special games.

## Lyle Deer Memorial Scholarship

PONCA CITY — The Oklahoma Tribal Transportation Council invites Native American junior or senior college students majoring in civil engineering to apply for the Lyle Deer Memorial Scholarship. The deadline to apply is July 15.

For more information, please

contact the OTTC at (580) 763-0120.

## Derrick Deere Co-ed Softball Tournament

OKMULGEE — The Derrick Deere Memorial co-ed softball tournament will be held at the MCN omnplex August 26-28. The entry fee is \$125 and the deadline to enter is Aug. 19.

For more information, please contact Elise: (918) 261-0838, Trina: (918) 759-8959, or Brandee: (918) 752-9040. The tournament is in memory of Derrick C. Deere.

## Reintegration Coat Drive

HENREYETTA — The MCN Reintegration program will be taking donations from July 1, to until the donations stop comin in for the first annual coat drive. They are accepting gently new and used coats for men, women and children. Donations can be dropped of at the Reintegration program. Other arrangements can be made.

For more information, please contact Becky Billingsly at (800) 259-1059 or at (918) 652-2676.

## The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program

The Mortgage Down Payment and Closing Cost Program helps Native Americans become first time homeowners by providing financial assistance for acquiring a home mortgage.

To pre-qualify for the program, the applicant must meet the following requirements.

- Preference will be given to Creek Citizens.
- Be a first time home buyer or not have owned a home within one year of application.
- Live within the State of Oklahoma.
- Must not be an existing or former Mutual Help participant or NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with Option to Purchase regardless of Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 100% of the national Median income as published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, which includes Citizenship cards for preference purposes, Social Security cards and employment verification for each working family member.
- Sign all required forms including the Consent for Disclosure of Information.
- Meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

FOR A PRE-APPLICATION CONTACT LADONNA NORTHCROSS AT  
918-549-2554 OR VISIT THE WEBSITE AT  
[www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov](http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov)

The Mortgage Down Payment Assistance program Pre-Approval does not guarantee a Mortgage Loan from an Outside Lender.

HISTORY AT 8:17PM

IN THE KITCHEN  
AFTER PIANO PRACTICE

It's school that fits the way you learn

- A nationally and regionally recognized diploma
- Online classroom with no distractions
- Flexible, interactive online classes
- Live one-on-one teacher help
- Open to students grades 6-12
- 24/7 support



Availability is limited. Contact us today at:  
**[www.OklahomaVirtualHighSchool.com](http://www.OklahomaVirtualHighSchool.com)**  
or call **1.866.826.2809**

Powered by Advanced Academics.

# And Still the Waters Run: *The Battle of Horseshoe Bend*

George Windes  
CMCA Historian

YORBA LINDA, Calif., — Nearly 100 acres of land in a horseshoe-shaped peninsula of the Tallapoosa, it was called Horseshoe Bend by white men from the Creek word *Tohopeka*.

Indian scouts who saw it returned to Jackson's camp to report an impregnable rampart had been built across the neck of the peninsula and much heavy artillery would be needed if Jackson's troops ever hoped to break through it.

The place was called Cholocco Litabixee by the Creeks. Learning that Jackson's troops were advancing, 1,000 warriors painted their bodies and prepared for battle, while about 400 women and children huddled down in the village toward the rear of the peninsula.

The date was March 27, 1814. Jackson planned to exterminate the Red Sticks forever.

Jackson ordered Gen. Coffee to take 800 soldiers and 600 friendly Indians (500 Cherokee and 100 Creeks) to close all means of retreat for those within the peninsula.

The remainder of the troops lined up in front of the breastworks. It was just 10 a.m. Two cannons were moved up a small hill 80 feet from the structure.

Jackson ordered the firing to commence, thinking the rampart would quickly be destroyed. He was



Pictured above is Horseshoe Bend located on the Tallapoosa River. Below is a rendering of the wall built to protect the Creeks from Andrew Jackson's forces in 1814.

mistaken. Two hours and 70 rounds later, none had penetrated, while his men were under continual rifle fire from the Red Sticks. He was perplexed.

Meanwhile, Coffee's troops saw about 100 Creeks attempting to get the women and children to safety. Some of his friendly Indians then swam the

river and took the canoes needed for retreat. Soon, 200 of Coffee's Cherokees came across and began to fight. The Red Sticks were dealing with a hugely superior enemy. Slowly, they were being pushed back toward the higher center of the peninsula, as Coffee's troops set fire to the village itself.

Outside the rampart, the cannons useless, Andrew Jackson decided to send his troops forward to attempt to climb it. Many soldiers were cut down, and yet kept coming. Major Lemuel Montgomery reached the top of the wall and was killed, his body falling back into his men's arms. Ensign Sam Houston (later of Texas), though injured, managed to make it over the wall. The vastly superior forces soon prevailed.

The fighting was fierce, but clubs and tomahawks were poor equals to

long-reaching bayonets. The warriors were caught between the two advancing forces of Jackson's army.

Could Red Eagle have made a difference? Probably not. He was several miles away when the battle began, recruiting additional warriors from nearby villages. Chief Menawa and other chiefs were acting in his stead. The battle turned into a "merciless blood bath," with women and children not always spared.

The battle raged for five hours, when darkness made it nearly impossible for the troops to see the fleeing Red Sticks. Some escaped by swimming the river, others hid in the undergrowth.

Menawa was seriously injured. He hid in water under the riverbank and later floated down river. Army sharpshooters continued to kill

Creeks by moonlight as they left the river. The entire peninsula was covered with the dead and dying. Eight hundred out of the 1,000 Creeks were dead, in addition to some women and children. Jackson lost about 70 soldiers and Cherokees, with 150 injured.

A historian has said the Battle of Cholocco Litabixee "stands alone in the history of savage warfare," since the fate of an entire (Creek) nation was determined by the outcome. To add insult to injury, on March 27, 1914, a tablet was placed at a Court-house in Tallapoosa County at Dadeville, Ala., (14 miles from Horseshoe Bend). It states:

1814-1914

*This tablet is placed by Tallapoosa County in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, fought within its limits on March 27, 1814. There the Creek Indians led by Menawa and other chiefs were defeated by the American and allied Indian forces under Gen. Andrew Jackson.*

*The battle broke the power of the fierce Muscogee, brought peace to the southern frontier, and made possible the speedy opening up of a large part of the state of Alabama to "CIVILIZATION."*

Dadeville, Alabama – March 27, 1914

So trying to exterminate an Indian nation and stealing 20,000,000 acres of land from them makes you civilized...

*Windes has been an active member of the California Muscogee Creek Association for over a decade and is serving on the Board as historian. He may be reached at: georgewindes@gmail.com*



# Bluhm named Mrs. Washington State

**Gerald Wofford**  
*MCN Communications Manager*

TUMWATER, Wash., — The pageant world is something that Lisa Bluhm didn't grow up in. Before turning 40, Bluhm wanted to change her attitude and self-esteem. The Muscogee (Creek) mother of two knew a beauty pageant was just what she needed.

"I needed a challenge to boost my self image that 40 can be fabulous," Bluhm said. "I decided entering a pageant would do just the trick."

Bluhm decided to enter the Mrs. Washington Pageant. The pageant is an opportunity for married women to represent the state of Washington and compete in the Mrs. America Pageant.

"Although I had never done a pageant before, I felt since 50 percent of the score was from the interview I had a fair chance at competing."

This was not the first year Bluhm had entered the pageant. In the past two years, Bluhm finished in the top eight the first year and fourth runner up last year. "I decided to run for a third year and win or lose, it would be my last year."

Unlike other beauty pageants, the interview is what really determines the winner. According to the rules of the pageant, there is no talent portion. Bluhm's platform this year was "unlocking your potential."

"My platform is about inspiring people to take their natural gifts and talents and use them to their fullest potential in order to reach their goals and make their dreams come true," Bluhm said.

After her hard work and dedication from the past two years, it was time for the winner. "Third time's a charm they say. After the scores were tallied I was chosen as Mrs. Washington 2011," Bluhm said with excitement.

Bluhm then qualified to com-



**Photo/Mrs. Washington Pageant**

Pictured above is Lisa Bluhm who recently competed and won the 2011 Mrs. Washington State Pageant.

pete in the Mrs. America pageant held in West Virginia. Bluhm and the other contestants had a lot of activities to keep them busy that included fly fishing, bowling, formal dinners and working on a house for Habitat for Humanity.

"It was one of the best events I participated in during my Mrs. America experience."

Unfortunately, Bluhm did not place earn any titles at the competi-

tion, but it's the memories and friends that she'll cherish the most. "It was the experience of a lifetime and I have acquired many new friends."

While Bluhm may not be the new Mrs. America, she will still continue serving as Mrs. Washington.

"I have the rest of my reign until March 12...and enjoy the honor of wearing the crown and sash as a representative of the married women in Washington State."

## In DeLaune's Corner: Beef and hopscotch

**Darren DeLaune**  
*MNN Sports Reporter*

OKMULGEE — Attention all Muscogee (Creek) athletes: I am calling you out.

For the next few months, I want to sit down with athletes both young and old, to hear some sports war stories.

Wins, losses, highlights, friendships made — anything that pertains to playing basketball, baseball, softball, teams, tournaments, travel, games played in a day (and or night) — I want to hear the great stories (and I know they will be great stories).

### *Training Diary: July 2011*

Training camp is in full swing right now. So far, it has been off to a good start. A lot of people who watch boxing and do not really know anything about it just think that there are just two people in the ring and all they are doing is throwing punches at each other. If that were the case, there would be no sense in training at all. There is a lot more to it. Skills like how to avoid a punch to the head and blocking with one hand while throwing a punch with the other must be learned along with throwing combinations. There are numerous things that must be taught in order to be successful in a fight.

Also, here is an update for my fight, which was supposed to take place Aug. 26. Due to some problems with the date, the fight is being moved to Sept TBA. It is a little set back, but more training for me to improve.

Okay, I promised in the last entry to bring up what my daughter had for our little training and what she said would help to get ready for the fights. Before this

fight I had an exhibition that I was getting ready for and Syeann told me some very unique training methods she thought of. One part of training was to fight a cow. Yes, a cow! It was just as comical trying to do that. I had a good run out of it. Never was able to hit the cow. He would not stop running away from me. Hopefully my opponent is not like that at all. My friends told me that Rocky Balboa fought cows for his training. They need to remember that those cows were hanging on meat racks in a butcher shop.

Another training technique she wanted me to employ was hopscotch. When asked why, she said I needed nimble feet so I told her that I would do that. Apparently that was not enough for her because she asked some of my friends to go to my house to tell her that I was playing hopscotch.

In this training camp, I will not be fighting cattle, but I am still doing the hopscotch (she keeps reminding me to do those). I think it is better to stick to the boxing. It was still pretty fun though.

Okay, that is it for this entry. I want to thank you for reading what I have been going through. On next entry, hopefully there will be a permanent date set and I will introduce you to my team. These guys are known for their success in both training and boxing. With their help, I will be taking home the "W" in September. Until then, take care of yourself.

I look forward to hearing your stories. To contact me, please call (918) 732-7703 or e-mail me at ddelaune@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

## OBITUARIES

### LEILA BARNETT BARNES



WETUMKA — Leila Barnett Barnes, 86, of Wetumka, Okla., was joyously reunited in heaven with her husband Thomas A. Barnes on Aug. 1, 2010. She was born Feb. 17, 1924, in Wetumka, Okla. She was the youngest child of Samochee and Malinda Harjo Barnett. She was a lifetime resident of Wetumka, Okla., and a member of the Salt Creek Indian Baptist Church and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town. She was preceded in death by her husband, four sons and four daughters.

Her surviving children are Micki Deer, Charles Toma Barnes and Paula Sue Herrod of Wetumka, Okla., and Malinda Ann Gibson of Chickasha, Okla.

She was blessed and leaves 39 grandchildren, 32 great grandchildren and eight great-great grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, and brother and sisters in Christ. She was laid to rest at the Barnes cemetery.

### PAULINE LEONA BEAN

EUFULA — Pauline Leona Bean, 88, of Eufaula, passed away on Friday, June 24, 2011 at the Eufaula Manor Nursing Home. Pauline was born May 15, 1923 in Eufaula, Okla., to Tom and Eliza (Phillips) Manley. She was raised and educated



in Eufaula, Okla. On Sept. 18, 1961, Pauline married the Rev. Woodrow "Amos" Bean, who preceded her in death in 1997. She worked at a sewing factory for five years in Eufaula, then as a health care provider for human services for over 15 years in the Eufaula area. Pauline was a life time member of the Artussee Indian Baptist Church, where she was baptized in 1933, at the age of 10. She will be deeply missed.

Survivors include her son, Elliott Fields, of the home; one sister-in-law, Cynthia Manley, of Tulsa, OK; two granddaughters, Edna Pauline Fields, of Tulsa, Okla.; Shelia Desautel, of Wash.; and four great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Tom and Eliza Phillips; her husband, Rev. Woodrow "Amos" Bean; one son, Arnold Fields; one grandson, John Fields; and one brother, Frederick Manley.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 30, 2011 at the Artussee Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Robert Washington officiating. Pallbearers were Raymond Tiger, David Dean Francis, Roger Manley, Douglas Manley, Francis Lewis, and Bill Phillips. Honorary Pallbearers were Jake Jackson, Tim Lowe, Sonny Robinson, Jacob Lonewolf, David Lonewolf, Joe McGirt, Mike McGirt, and Colbert Hill. Burial followed at Artussee Cemetery under the direction of Hunn Black & Merritt Funeral Home & Crematory.

### DONALD R. FRANKS



COVINA, Calif. — Donald R. Franks, better known as "Donny", passed away June 9, 2011 at the age of 46. He was born on March 18, 1965 in Covina Calif.

Donny's grandfather was Joseph Frank, his great grandparents were Tingo and Mandy Frank. He is survived by nephew Stone Flores, sister Laura Franks Flores, mother Sandra Franks and father Donald Franks. Wishes and prayer may be sent to 22919 Styles Street, Woodland Hills, CA 91367. He was of the Beaver Clan.

### KATHERINE GOATE MUNOZ



LAWTON — Katherine "Sissy" Goate Munoz, beloved wife of William R. Munoz, went home to be with her Lord April, 29, 2011 at Comanche Memorial Hospital in Lawton, Okla., after her lifelong battle with diabetes.

She was born in Eufaula, Okla.,

Dec. 9, 1942 to the Rev. John J. and Athelena Goate and grew up in Holdenville, Okla. She was an enrolled full-blooded Muscogee (Creek). She was educated at Holdenville High School and graduated college at Haskell Institute where she was in the band and played saxophone.

She married William Munoz on Sept. 15, 1972. Her lifelong passion was ministry through singing and playing the piano; she loved southern gospel music and her Muscogee (Creek) hymns. Her life was centered on ministry and church. Her career was in civil service as a stenographer and secretary with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fort Sill Indian School, and Fort Sill where she retired in 1993. She volunteered with the Suicide Hotline, fed the hungry and assisted wherever there was need. She loved traveling, oldies, music and her beloved pets.

Katherine was preceded in death by her parents Rev. John J. and Athelena Goate, her grandchildren Michella and Benjamin Crow, her niece Gabriella Goate, her brother-in-laws Don McLaughline and Eddie Munoz. She is survived by her husband of 38 years William R. Munoz of Altus, son and daughter-in-law Curtis J., and Lynn Munoz of Carnegie, Okla.; two daughters and sons-in-law Catherine Julia and Randall Patterson of Navarre, Ohio and Shonda L., and Tedd Crow of Lawton, Okla.; a brother and his spouse Alfred J. and Nancy Goate of Oklahoma City, Okla.; three sisters and their spouses: Rachael Williams of Oklahoma City, Okla., Alice and Rick Lott of New Llano, La., Lydia and Larry Harrison of Seminole, Okla.; Father-in-law and mother-in-law John and Helen Neal of Charlotte, N.C., brother-in-law John Neal of Lowell, N.C., sisters-in-law Donna and Jeff Falls of Gastonia, N.C., Linda and Ray Hill of Fayetteville, N.C., and Diana Woringer of Gastonia, N.C.; five grandchildren: Ashely and Joshua Patterson, Riley Munoz, Tedd and Samuel Crow. She also has many nephews and nieces she loved dearly. The family is thankful for the many prayers and condolences

during this time of our grief. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Diabetes Association.

## THANK YOU

### SHAUNDAY LITTLE



OKMULGEE — The family of Shaunday Little would like to express our gratitude for all of the love and support that was extended to us during our time of need. We are so grateful for the time that we had with Shaunday; she will be forever in our hearts.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Little Cussetah Church, Wilson Indian Community Center, Creek Nation and Shurden Funeral Home.

Thank you to Creek Nation Communications for the memorials and The Screen and Stitch Co., of Okmulgee who made the shirts and banner. They both did a beautiful job.

To the cooks and those who offered food as well as their time, flowers and gifts, Mvto! As somebody told me: That for everyone that was there to see her off on her journey, just imagine how many there are waiting to receive her. We take comfort in knowing that she was well received by her creator and those gone on before us.

*Pun yvhi ketv "Momis Komet Vpeyavres" makat, fvcvvt os. Momet oketv ofvn fullet owes. Omylkatkat, vnicet mekosapatskat, mvto ce kices.*

## ACCOMPLISHMENT

### ELLA BAILEY



BAPCHULE, Ariz., — Ella Bailey was honored in April for her outstanding teaching by the administration and peers of Casa Blanca Community School in the Gila River Indian Community near Phoenix, Ariz.

She has spent 18 out of 26 years teaching first graders. Bailey is the daughter of the late Mary Barnett and granddaughter of the late Toney and Rhoda "Cato" Barnett.

### CHEYENNE JACKSON



WAINWRIGHT — Christopher Cheyenne Bruce Jackson won the Wainwright Elementary Soft Seven Math Race Feb. 15.

Jackson won first place with a score of 4,838 points. He was awarded a medal, an Einstein T-shirt and an iPod. Jackson also competed in the regional championship in April and later qualified to compete in the state's Soft Seven Math Championship held in May.

Jackson is the son of Christopher and Christie Jackson of Oktaha and is the grandson of Jackie and Dianna Jackson of Okmulgee and the late Gary and Debbie Guthrie.

### JAYDN POWELL



TUTTLE — Jaydn Powell, a fifth-grader at Tuttle Middle School received the following awards for the 2010-2011 school year: Presidential Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence; Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma Student of Today Award; D.A.R.E. Award; Living Wise Award; Web Expert Award; Honor Roll; Science Fair Award; Reading, Science, Language Arts, Mathematics and Social Studies Award (awarded for maintaining all A's throughout the school year).

Powell is the daughter of Bryant and Michell Powell and the granddaughter of Reg and Gaye Thompson, Jim Tidwell, and Ken and Janice Hardy.

Powell is of the Alligator Clan.

### MICHELLE POWELL



CHICKASHA — Michelle Powell starred in the Chickasha Community Theatre Production of "On Golden Pond." She played the role of Chelsea Thayer. Powell lives in Tuttle, Okla., and is the daughter of Reg and Gay Thompson and Jim Tidwell. She is of the Alligator Clan.

### COURTNEY REEDER

NORMAN — Courtney L.Q. Reeder made the Dean's Honor Roll for the fall 2010 semester. She attends the University of Oklahoma and is majoring in Native American Studies.

Reader is the daughter of Sonya Reader Orange; granddaughter of Cliff and Elizabeth (Long) Reader. Her great-grandparents are the late Rev. New Long and Hettie (Tiger) Long Reeder and the late Adam and Helen (Redhorn) Kaulaitv. She is of the Tiger Clan.

## BIRTH

### ISABELL RAIN ARPOIKA



SEMINOLE — Isabell Rain Arpoika was born on April 4, 2011 to Tylor and Kendra Arpoika. She weighed 6 lbs and 3 ounces.

Her paternal grandparents are Brad and Angela Arpoika of Tecumseh, Okla. Great-grandparent is the late Lenda Arpoika and her great-great grandparents are the late William and Elva Arpoika. Maternal grandparents are Ken and Samarian Fixico of Seminole, Okla.

## BIRTHDAYS

### DAYNE ALLEN BILLIE



CLEWISTON, Fla., — Dayne Allen Billie celebrated his sixth birthday June 15, 2011 with a "Sonic the Hedgehog" themed party.

Parents are Allen and Mary Billie.

Grandparents are Lon Bear and the late Susanna Deeringwater Bear and Thomas and Jane Billie.

Great grandparents are the late Henry and late Louise Deeringwater and Alice Billie and Francis Osceola.

Billie attends Ahfachkee School on the Big Cypress Reservation.

Billie is of the Wind Clan.

### MICHAEL HARJO



TULSA — Michael L. Harjo (Fugo) celebrated his fourth birthday June 5, 2011 with a "Batman" themed party.

Parents are Chubby Harjo and

Renee Pryor.

Harjo has five siblings: Elissa Lindsay, Clarissa Cosey, Jonathan (Bud) Harjo, Sara Long and Brianna Byce.

Grandparents are the late J.W. Harjo and late Naomi Harjo, Clarke Pryor and Mable and Bill Smith.

Harjo is of the Wind Clan and a member of the Greenleaf Ceremonial Ground.

### KYLIE HILL



TULSA — Kylie Hill celebrated her eighth birthday on June 12, 2011 with a party at BounceU in Tulsa. She is the daughter of Kendra Bear of Tulsa and BJ Hill of Okmulgee. Her maternal grandparents are Buster and Kathy Bear and paternal grandparents are Maria and Billy Hill.

Kylie likes playing softball, and stickball and going to stompdances. She is a member of Hickory Ground Ceremonial Ground and is of the Bear Clan.

## Send us your lifestyle news

**To submit  
announcements,  
please mail to:**

**MCN  
Communications  
PO Box 580,  
Okmulgee, OK  
74447**



## 18TH ANNIVERSARY

### 18th Anniversary Casino Celebration

\$18 Match Play. Hot Seat Drawings (Noon - 8:30 PM) for \$1,000, \$2,000, \$5,000, and \$10,000 cash prizes plus a 2011 GMC Sierra truck grand prize.

### 18th Anniversary Blackjack Drawings

(1:00 PM - 9:30 PM) \$10,000 in cash and prizes!

### 18th Anniversary

### \$5,000 Guarantee Poker Tournament

(12:30 PM) \$20 buy-in, rebuys available. \$10 add-ons.

### 18th Anniversary Poker Splash Pots

(4:00 PM - Midnight) \$180 splashed on every live action poker table every hour.

### 18th Anniversary Bingo Session

Mini Games pay \$118. \$18 pays \$1,018.

# \$100,000 IN CASH AND PRIZES JULY 23RD



## GRAND PRIZE DRAWING! WIN A GMC TRUCK!

WIN UP TO \$10,000 IN CASH PRIZES AND MORE!



3420 W. PEAK BLVD. MUSKOGEE OK 74401

918.683.1825 creeknationcasino.net

Look for us on facebook and twitter under 'LUCK STRIKES HERE'





# Muscogee Nation Festival 37th annual 2011

LAUDERDALE COMPLEX, POWDERSPRING, ALABAMA JUNE 23-26



# 38th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Rodeo is a bull-sized job

Gary Fife  
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE — “They say, to learn how to be a bullrider, you put a whole bunch of marbles in your mouth. Every time you get on a bull, then you spit one out. When you lost all your marbles, then you’re a bullrider.” That’s according to a story from Brad Fish, former bullrider and current President of the rodeo association, which put on the event for the 2011 Creek Nation Festival.

You don’t have to have lost all your marbles to have enjoyed bullriding and a host of other events at the 2011 Indian National Finals Rodeo (INFR) Region 8 Tour Rodeo held June 24-25 at the Bob Arrington Rodeo Arena.

This popular event draws contestants from all over the country to compete in bronc busting, calf-roping, barrel and even ‘mutton-bustin’ for the younger kids who enter this sheep riding event. Specialty acts for this year included a Pony Express competition and a calf scramble.

The origins of rodeo have roots in the everyday tasks of running a ranch. For instance, it gave ranch hands something to do in their spare time Fish said, “Take calf-roping, back in the old days, them old cowboys would be bored and they just kind of got to doing that to pass the time. It’s a real competitive sport. They were breaking horses, so they got into that.” “Bull-riding,” he laughs, “I think that was some old guys out there that didn’t have no better sense.”

The job of coordinating the rodeo is massive. Logistical tasks of assembling stock, preparing the arena, insurance, and lining up entries are just some of the tasks the association has to worry about. Fish adds some of the other things they have to keep track of, “You got to get a stock contractor, you’ve got to go get your are-



MNN/Rebecca Landsberry

The bronc-riding is one of the many events that featured Native cowboys as part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 38th annual

na, see how much your arena is going to cost, how much your insurance is going to cost. If you’re going to put a concession stand up there, you got to figure out how much food you need for your concession stand—you don’t want to buy too much or too little. You’ve got to get your clowns. You’ve got to get your secretary, and get your added money.”

The animals used for the competition are one of the critical factors in a successful rodeo. Fish says they’ve got to put on a good show, and hopefully, spare the riders serious injury. He explains what characteristics a good bull or bronc must possess, “On bulls, you just want them all to buck—you want an ‘even pen’. You want them all to buck. You don’t want one to come out and really buck, and the next

one to come out and quit. You don’t want them fighting in the chute. You don’t want one to be what they call an ‘eater’—they’ll come out there after the cowboy comes off, and they try to tear them up or something. For the saddle bronc, you want one that sits good in the chute, you want them to come out and really buck and give you an honest ride.”

Growing up on a ranch and being around horses and cattle provide a solid foundation for would-be rodeo competitors. There’s no substitute for starting early, Fish said. He remembers a fall on his head as a first rodeo experience, “Me and brother, I think we started riding bulls when he was 16 and I was 10. I went to a rodeo with him one time, and he had a buddy. His buddy backed out from riding his

bull, so I got on him. “Sweet Sixteen”—I can still remember his name and he came out there and went to the left, and starting spinning and threw me on my head. After that I was hooked.”

Fish is hoping other tribes can become involved and support of this rodeo to make it even more of an opportunity for Indian cowboys to compete. Additionally, he’s looking to interested parties to help put on rodeo clinics for youth to become involved. Volunteers are welcome to help out in the office or even the concession stands.

This year’s rodeo included bareback riding, barrel racing, team roping, bull riding calf roping, breakway roping, steer wrestling and saddle bronc riding. Junior and senior events rounded out a full two-day schedule.

## Celebrate Life: a success



Lee Longhorn  
MNN Intern Reporter

OKMULGEE — William Lowe was in his position no longer than three months before his office had to oversee the annual festival.

The 37th Muscogee (Creek) Festival was held in Okmulgee, Okla., throughout the month of June, culminating on the weekend of the 23 through the 26.

Lowe was hired in April to serve as the director of the Tourism and Recreation Department.

“I thought it was outstanding. Just seeing everybody working together and seeing it behind the scenes was the interesting part of it,” Lowe said from his office on the Tuesday after festival weekend.

Lowe attributes much of the success from the festival running smoothly to the numerous volunteers and employees. “It was great to see so many volunteers working together.”

Brian On-The-Hill, Projects Specialist for the department agreed. “I think everyone had a good time.”

Lowe is optimistic about future festivals and activities that his department will coordinate.

“We’ve been doing quality festivals for 37 years now, so we’ll continue doing them and keep on improving,” Lowe said.



# RESULTS

Friday, June 24	Saturday, June 25	5k Results		
<b>SENIOR ACTIVITIES</b> <b>Quilt Contest: Machine</b> 1. SUE MORGAN 2. MELISSA SEIFRIED 3. JOHNNIE MAE FOX <b>Hand Sewn</b> 1. LORETTA YAHOLA	<b>PARADE RESULTS</b> COMMUNITY FLOATS 1. OKFUSKEE INDIAN COMMUNITY 2. MICHAEL HICKS /THE LITTLE IDNIANS 3. MIDDLE CREEK #2 CHURCH MCN DEPARTMENTS 1. COLLEGE OFTHE MUSCOGEE NATION 2. KOWETA INDIAN HEALTH INDIAN CAR 1. EMMANUAL MORGAN	MALE: TOP FINISHERS 1. NIGEL HAMPTON 2. BRANDON PAYNE 3. LOGAN EDMONDS  MALE: AGE 1-12 1. NATHANIEL COFFEY 2. PERRY BARTELS 3. KOBE HARRISON  MALE: AGE 13-15 1. SAGE LARNEBULL 2. KENDALL CHARLEY 3.ALEC BYRD  MALE: AGE 16-19 1. NIGEL HAMPTON 2. LOGAN EDMONDS 3. FRANKIE COMETSEUAH  MALE: AGE 20-24 1. BRANDON PAYNE 2. BILLY CHRISTY 3. BARAK BALD EAGLE  MALE: AGE 25-29 1. VINCENT BACCUS  MALE: AGE 30-34 1. OWEN WOFFORD 2. CHRISTOPHER AZBELL 3. JASON NICHOLS  MALE: AGE 35-39 1. MIKE WOODWARD 2. KERRY RILEY 3. DUANE MEADOWS  MALE: AGE 40-44 1. WILSON PIPESTEM  MALE: AGE 45-49 1. ROBERT ANQUOE 2. MIKE PROCTOR  MALE: AGE 50-54 1.STEPHEN WIND 2. MICHAEL RIVERA 3. LEON YAHOLA  MALE: AGE 55-59	1. GEORGE TAYLOR 2. STEVEN YAHOLA 3. DAVID LENA  MALE: AGE 60-64 1. RICHARD DONALDSON 2. CARL PETERSON  MALE: AGE 65-69 1. LARRY BIDDLE 2. WALTER GOWAN  MALE: AGE 70-98 1. JIM THOMAS 2. CLIFFORD LEWIS 3. BILLY CHALAKEE  FEMALE: TOP FINISHERS 1. KRISTI PERRYMAN 2. JANA PRATT 3. LASHAYLA SMOKER  FEMALE: AGE 1-12 1. LAYSHAYLA SMOKER 2. AUTUMN DEARMAN 3. ALLIE HARRISON  FEMALE: AGE 13-15 1. JANA PRATT 2. CANDACE REDHAT 3. ROMONA PIERSON  FEMALE: AGE 16-19 1. LYNDSAY JENKINS 2. CHERRIE HENLEY 3. TARA STARR  FEMALE: AGE 20-24 1. FAITH HARJO 2. LINDSEY PROCTOR  FEMALE: AGE 25-29 1. MELISSA HAAG 2. TAWNA LITTLE 3. HANNAH BROWN  FEMALE: AGE 30-34 1. KAREN FISH 2. STEPHANIE ROMANNOSE 3. AMANDA WILLIAMS  FEMALE: AGE 35-39	1. KRISTI PERRYMAN 2. REBECCA LECLAIR 3. DELANA WESTMAN-BERRY  FEMALE: AGE 40-44 1. SERENA FOREMAN 2. DEBRA GEE 3. LISA SANDS  FEMALE: AGE 45-49 1. TRAY ANQUOE 2. TERRI BARTELS 3. SHARON PROCTOR  FEMALE: AGE 50-54 1. DEBRA ISHAM 2. SUE FISH  FEMALE: AGE 55-59 1. DENNY LEE 2. LINDA PEELER 3. MELINDA BYRD  FEMALE: AGE 60-64 1. SUSAN COMBS 2. JANEY PARKS  FEMALE: AGE 65-69 1. JEAN WILBOURN 2. LILLIAM THOMAS  <b>MEN’S SLOW-PITCH</b> 1. CHITTO HARJO 2. SHA-TO-U 3. LADY MVP  <b>CO-ED SLOW-PITCH</b> 1. ATS 2. MIX BREED 3. EOS  <b>WOMEN’S FAST-PITCH</b> 1. LADY MVP 2. NEN 3. RENEGADES  <b>MEN’S FAST-PITCH</b> 1. SEMINOLES 2. BRAVES 3. FREAK-R-US
<b>Horshoes</b> Men 1. RICHARD RANDALL & JOHNNIE HICKS 2. JOHN BROWN & JOHNNY HARJO 3. REX WATSON & THOMAS TIGER Women 1. OLETA DONATHAN & JOHNNIE MARKS 2.LYDIA TARYOLE & EDNA GRAFFENRERD 3. RACHEL HUSMAN & LORETTA YAHOLA <b>Jacks Contest</b> 1. NELLIE LASLEY 2. MARGIE CHALAKEE 3. RACHEL HUSMAN <b>Sofkey Contest</b> 1. BETTY FRYE 2. ED WALKER 3. JOHNNIE HICKS <b>Sour Cornbread Contest</b> 1. MARGIE CHALAKEE	<b>VOLLEYBALL</b> 1. SUN DEVILS 2. WILD SETS 3. SET FOR ME MVP MALE: ETHAN BELL FEMALE: LISA WILLIAMS  <b>HORSESHOES</b> MEN’S SINGLES 1. BUNKY 2. RICK DANIELS 3. THOMAS K. MEN’S DOUBLES 1. SAM BEAVER, JR/BOBBY HARJO 2. THOMAS K./RICK DANIELS 3. PAUL TECUMSEH/BUNKY MEN’S RINGER THROW 1. ERIK HARJO 2. BOBBY HARJO 3. BUNKY LADIES SINGLES 1. CANDACE TIGER 2. BRENDA DAVIES 3. SARAH MORGAN LADIES DOUBLES 1. CANDACE TIGER/ BRENDA DAVIES 2. SARAH MORGAN/ LINDA HICKS 3. ADDIE HICKS/JEREMY BEAVER LADIES RINGER THROW 1. BRENDA DAVIES 2. SARAH MORGAN 3. LINDA HICKS			
<b>Basketball</b> MEN 1. EMANUEL MORGAN 2. JOE MCNAC 3. DON WASHINGTON WOMEN 1. KATIE WOOD 2. RACHEL HUSMAN 3. ANNIE HICKS  <b>Traveled the Farthest</b> 1. ROGER T. JONES, San Bernandino, Calif.  <b>Oldest Creek in Attendance</b> 1.JORENE COKER				

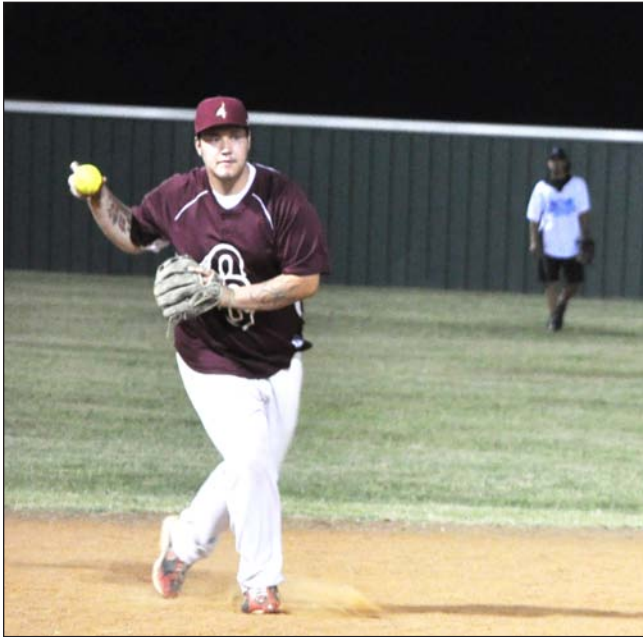
# FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



# FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



# FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



# FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



# FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

